ARVIND NETAM): (a) Most of the recommendations of the Commitee on Agricultural Productivity in Eastern India (Dr. S. R. Sen Committee) have been accepted.

(b) The recommendations of the Committee were discussed at a meeting of the Chief Ministers of Eastern States convened at Patna in January, 1986. In that Conference there was wide agreement on strategic recommendations. Since agriculture is a State subject, the concerned State Governments were advised to implement the recommendations as part of their Plan Programme. In order to review the progress of action taken by various States, Government of India convened another meeting in September, 1992 at New Delhi (which was not attended by any Chief Minister). The information received so far reveals that many of the recommendations are by and large, included in the States' various ongoing and new programmes.

(c) While the physical targets were generally realised, there was some shortfall in the utilisation of funds during the Seventh Five Year Plan. The financial provisions for the Eighth Five Year Plan are more or less in keeping with the outlays suggested by the Sen Committee Report. It is too early to say about achievement of physical targets during the Eighth Plan.

Excess or normal rains in the States

1061. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rainfall during the period from 1st June, 1993 to 9th September, 1993 has been very encouraging for the improvement of agricultural production;

(b) the total excess or normal rains in the States;

(c) what were the States which had excess rains and those where there was shortfall of rains;

(d) whether the rains during September are important for grain filling and maturity of crops and also substatial retention of soil moisture for rabi sowings; and

(e) to what extent these rains have brightended the performance of Kharif and rabi prospects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) During 1st June to 8th September, 1993 of south-West monsoon period, the cumulative rainfall was normal or excess of the normal throughout the country except Saurashtra & Kutch, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Bihar plateau, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands were it was deficient. The total rainfall for the country as a whole at that point of time was 97% of the normal.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The rains received in September, 93 have improved the production prospects of kharif paddy and coarse cereals which were suffering due to long dry spell in the month of August, 1993. These rains have also provided sufficient soil moisture for undertaking extensive sowings of rabi crops.

Launching of Master Programme to Boost Agriculture in M. P.

1062. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state-

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has launched Master programme to bring 3,00,000 hectares of cultivable land under assured irrigation to boost agriculture;

(b) if so, what are the main fraetures of the proposed scheme;

(c) what are the districts that will be covered under the Scheme;

(d) whethec irrigated land in the State account for 80 per cent of the total cultivated agriculture land;

(e) by when, this land will be made fully cultivable; and